

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05680 081705Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 081302Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 788

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5680

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, GE

SUBJECT: V-E DAY CELEBRATIONS

REF: STATE 106089

1. I APPRECIATE REFTEL AND ITS VALUABLE INFORMATION.
I ATTENDED YESTERDAY AT 4 P.P. THE GDR OFFICIAL "LIBERATION"
MEMORIAL AT THE OPERA HOUSE. NO MILITARY FORCES
PARTICIPATED. THE SPEECHES OF HONECKER AND KULAKOW, SOVIET
REPRESENTATIVE, EMPHASIZED LIBERATION BY SOVIETS AND
SOVIET INFLUENCE ON DEVELOPMENT OF GDR. HONECKER REFERRED
TO CUBA AND SOUTH VIETNAM AS EXAMPLES OF THE PROGRESS
OF SOCIALISM.

2. I WILL ATTEND A WREATH LAYING CEREMONY ON FRIDAY
MORNING, MAY 9, TO SOVIET DEAD AS PROPER TRIBUTE TO
WARTIME ALLY.

3. I WILL NOT ATTEND CEREMONY AT THE MEMORIAL FOR
VICTIMS OF FASCISM AND MILITARISM ON FRIDAY, MAY 9.
IT IS PROBABLY THAT GDR MILITARY FORCES WILL PARTICI-
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 05680 081705Z

PATE, AS THEY DID IN LARGE PARADE WITH VARIOUS MILITARY

COMPONENTS ON MAY DAY. FURTHER, GDR PRESS MEDIA
ARTICLES THIS WEEK ARE VERY MILITARISTIC AND EMPHASIZE
WAR ROLE OF SOVIET UNION. IN ADDITION TO INFORMATION
FURNISHED BY YOUR MESSAGE I RECALL US FORCES LIBERATION
OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS FILLED WITH NAZI VICTIMS, AND
THE LEGISLATION ACCEPTING THOUSANDS OF THESE VICTIMS,
AND DISPLACED PERSONS, INTO THE US AFTER THE WAR.
OPPOSITION OF US TO FASCISM AND TOTALITARIANISM
IS WELL KNOWN AND FUNDAMENTAL IN OUR SYSTEM OF
GOVERNMENT. FURTHER, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT MANY GDR
CITIZENS WHO WILL ATTEND THESE FUNCTIONS, AND CERTAINLY
THE LATTER ONE, SUPPORTED NAZISM.COOPER

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